

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1903.

We have just passed through another big fire with considerable loss to this agency. Every dollar of our loss has been paid, and so it will always be when you obtain insurance that insures.

Paulett & Paulett.

THOUGHTS.

Those of our readers who live in the Northern States, are at this time enjoying the return of living beauty to the bare hillsides and the trees.

Blights and plagues of various kinds may destroy that which is so promising of fruitage, but who is much troubled at that? Damages are of the future, and they cannot destroy the beauty of the present promise. 'Tis as though we were never to enjoy the charm of an infant, for some day it might grow to be a coarse man or a coarser woman. Beauty has a value in its day even if later it vanishes completely.

If we could see the action of life in the rocks, what a strange compelling it would seem! I have pictured of rocks, chemical substances, gases, molecules of water drawn into the being of the plant by a force irresistible and, even in this day of scientific advance, quite inexplicable except by saying "It is Life." To see that the plant can take from its surroundings in most unlikely places, no matter how unpromising they may seem, and then send up its little shoot of greenness, to see this is to realize that life is always stronger than death, that real life takes unyielding things and makes them yield results, that there is nothing so dead and lifeless in its nature but that can be taken up by some form of life and transformed into beauty and utility.

The force that drives the sap to the topmost twig, rises above the dead law of gravitation; the force that we living creatures can exert to make and remake our surroundings rises superior to it also—the lift of a hand, and the motion of a foot are mysteries of power over the laws that hold dead things. Will is greater than senseless resistance. The will to do and to grow brings its own results.

We do not feel like preaching on this topic, for spring is its own preaching. It speaks to the best in us, it speaks to the best in us, it is the voice of Legion, not evil spirits but good, saying that while there is any life left there is hope, that no matter how gnarled and ancient a tree may be, the good wood in it will feel spring and put forth its best. While there is life, no matter how trampled down we may be by rough shod circumstances, spring makes that life strive to raise its head once more upward to the light of day and to the world of endeavor.

Some people feel depression in the spring. This we cannot understand. The message of a new world build up on a dead winter, of a new awakening from a long sleep, speaks to our hearts as it speaks to the heart of the bird, making it sing for gladness that the time of new effort has come again.

Nature perhaps is selfish. We see no memory in the flowers of today, recognizing that their very life is based upon dead things that have gone before them, but to us who think as human beings, head of created things, there must never come forgetfulness that the Spring of our endeavor is always traceable back to endeavors that have ended and passed away, leaving simply the impulse within the heart of some other human beings to carry on the labor. Thus for us human beings is a season of recognizing the past, remembering that its very incomplete endeavors are the impulse for us to go on trying to excel, in our completed accomplishments, those who have gone before.

Once again the birds are singing. At the "Sparrow" birds—Modest hummers lowly ringing. Close to Mother Earth.

Close to earth captured creepers, Drowsed in infant sleep—Gems distilled from winter's weeping. Gems which berries bear.

Nature's voices all are very fine— "Come, rejoice and sing. Leave the winter singing, dying. Live the life of spring."

"See the lilies which are making 'Springtime's corona' breathe. Let your life be ever taking life from something dead."

"See the tender blossoms spreading Over the barren ground; Let your life be like a seedling. Sweetness all around."

"Let not drowsy winter see you With his cruel sting. Love and hope and life are near you. Love comes the spring."

Waking Up.

Persons who read the last issue of the Herald will know that the tax payers of Prince Edward are waking up to the necessity of good roads. Let the waking up be followed by working up to the full demands of the subject, and all will be well. It is idle to say that the people of Prince Edward are too poor to build good roads. On the contrary they are too poor not to do it. We may not have them in one year or ten, but we will have them in reasonable time if we really want them. In the meantime the Herald renews a suggestion, made a year ago, and that is that Mr. Swan be authorized to spend the winter months looking after bottoms and other bad places on our roads. Men and mules could not be more perfectly employed than in improving such places. Here a little and there a little and after a while a consummated victory.

Money talks and whisky makes a man talkative.

Attorney Watkins' Opinion.

At a meeting of the Town Council held in the Council chamber on Tuesday, March 10th, 1903, on motion of Mr. Erambert, it was ordered that the Farmville Telephone Company be allowed the privilege of amending their franchise, so as to charge \$15.00 per year for domestic phones instead of \$10.00 per year as at present, and in the opinion of the town attorney it was legal to do so.

Following is the written opinion of the town attorney:

To the Town Council of the Town of Farmville, Va.

Gentlemen—I am in receipt of a copy of a resolution of your honorable body, adopted March 10th, 1903, and sent me through your Mayor, requesting an opinion as to whether it is legal to allow the Telephone Company the privilege of amending its franchise so as to charge \$15 per year for domestic phones instead of \$10 per year as at present. In reply, upon examination of the petition filed Feb. 27th, 1899, and granted by your honorable body, (see page 345 of minutes), I find that section 4 of said petition grants said Company the right to charge \$15.00 per year. If this be the only record touching this matter, of course no other action on the part of your honorable body is necessary.

I am of the opinion, however, that even if the franchise limited the charge to \$10.00 the town council would have unquestionable right to enlarge the powers of the Telephone Co., and could even go so far as to repeal all limitations.

Your Obedient Servant,
A. D. WATKINS,
Town Attorney.

April County Court.

Last Monday was the regular April term of the County Court for Prince Edward. The crowd in attendance was unusually small and business transacted of not much public interest.

This has been the term for granting liquor licenses but under the new conditions such things have fallen into "unimproved desuetude," and applicants are very few. Litigation is a luxury, and as our people have to pay for telephones, electric lights, water and such luxuries they may have concluded to do away with this one. Anyhow it is a thing of bygone and whether or not there is any resurrection for it remains to be seen.

Jas. A. Spiggle qualified as administrator of the estate of J. C. Inge.

Emily Paulett, administratrix of H. C. Paulett, was relieved of erroneous assessment.

R. N. Jones was appointed constable of Hampden District.

Katharine Russell, executrix of Rosa B. Russell, was relieved of erroneous assessment.

No liquor licenses were granted, though there was one application from Meherin which could not be acted on as the treasurer is not yet advised of the amount of license money to collect.

There was no criminal case heard. Messrs. T. E. Watkins, W. C. Franklin and H. E. Lee, were the only foreign lawyers in attendance on the session of court.

Who Knows?

Editor Herald:—Are the receipts of the Farmville postoffice such as to justify free delivery for the town? If so let's have it, and if not there's an end of it.

Roll of Honor.

Farmville graded school for the week ending April 15.

High School—Irving Armstrong, Bernard Baldwin, Brooks Bliss.

Grade 7: Marjorie Thompson, Ben Rives Hooper.

6: Louise Gray.

5: Lena Gilliam, Basil Jackson.

4: Tommie Ligon, Bettie Gay Smith.

3: Ruth Cawthorn, Gertrude Gilliam.

2: Howard Ligon.

1: Everett Wilkerson.

Played Ball Well.

There was a match game of baseball played on the Hampden-Sidney grounds on Wednesday afternoon, between the Richmond College and the Hampden-Sidney teams. The former won by a score of 4 to 2, though they will return satisfied that they met with yeoman worthy their best self.

The game was an excellent one, hotly contested from start to finish and kept the unforgiving interest of lookers on until the last blow had been made. Farmville was well represented on the occasion and everybody returned singing the praises of the players.

Saturday looked like a busy day in Farmville and the merchants tell us it was. No "drunk" in sight and no disorder in evidence. But our Saturdays have always been free from the disorderly throng heretofore the crowds on our streets were a little more demonstrative than they were on last Saturday.

An appreciative reader of the Herald, who sometime since moved to a sister State, writes that while he enjoyed the paper in Farmville now that he is absent from the town such is his interest in that he reads it from end to end, and advertisements included. Subscribe for a copy of the home paper and have it sent to your absent friend.

Major Otley is in town, looking younger, and, but that he would stir his vanity we would add, handsomer than when he left us. He is just from the Kentucky oil fields, where he tells us that operations have been interrupted by the continued rains. Rain water is about the only kind of water that gives Kentucky folks any trouble.

A drive of a few miles into the country on last Tuesday revealed the fact that the wheat crop was suffering from sunburn, that the clover was doing its very best, that the farmers were weeks behind with their work, that even the gardens had not been planted, that the leaves were as large as usual at this season and that the dogwood blossoms were whiter and lovelier than ever before.

A friend of ours was sitting quietly in his home one day last week, and hearing a flutter among the fowls in the yard, seized his gun to bring down a hawk. He was greatly gratified to find instead of the hawk a fat wild turkey perched on the limb of a shade tree. It is needless to add that he had it for dinner next day. As the hunting season is over we don't tell names and tales too.

Green Seal Paint.

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BRIEFS AND PERSONALS.

March.

When March had sway o'er all the land,
And held the storms in thrall,
He ruled it in a kingly way,
And gained the praise of all.
But as he strolled along the way,
The day was warm and fair,
He passed to rest beside a well,
And left his mantle there.

Thus on our journey, day by day;
"Long valley, field and wood;
'Mid pleasant scenes of bud and leaf,
In this forgetful mood.
But on the last day of his reign,
This dreiful chance befell,
That he remembered he had left
His mantle at the well.

And then he turned about in rage,
And vowed he would retrieve
Each league of land until he reached
That distant resting place.
And April wept most bitter tears,
Nature shook with sob and moan,
The very earth seemed wrapt in gloom,
But March would have his own.

The new depot is ready for use, and we presume will soon be on full duty.

The paint brush is busy at work in town and whatever it touches it adorns.

Are we to have a Fair in October or not? Answers will be published in the Herald.

Don't be uneasy, we will have plenty of sunshine yet before the summer is ended.

Four girls in the family and not a boy. But who wouldn't have one girl rather than two boys.

Mr. G. R. Glenn, general agent of the Peabody Fund, was the guest of President Jarman, on Monday.

Mrs. Robert Louis Freear, who spent the Easter holidays with her parents in Richmond, has returned home.

Mr. E. E. Goodwin, a popular and prominent young business man of Emporia, Va., visited friends in Farmville last Sunday.

Miss Sallie Clarke Cullen will return shortly from her home in Lynchburg, to spend the summer with her cousin, Mrs. Robert Louis Freear.

Houses with new coats of paint and folks with new gowns on. Things are brightening up in town while all the country rejoices and is glad.

There are a great many ways in which to work off an old stock of goods, but the most improved way is to advertise like fury.

We are indebted to Mr. Geo. A. Lindsay, of Scottwood, for the most beautiful butonera of spring flowers we have seen during the season.

Dr. Winston went to Roanoke on Tuesday as delegate to the Grand Council of the Royal Arcanum and returned on Wednesday night's train.

What a good time the teachers will have in Richmond this week. They are earnest workers and we are glad to know they have this little "rest off."

The Sunday school lesson of last Sunday dealt with debt, and the conclusion reached was that if everybody would pay nobody would be in debt. Just so.

Among those visiting and trading in town this week were Misses Edlie and Hattie Gilliam and Miss Agnes Johns, of Buckingham, and Mr. Horace Jeffers, of Nottoway.

Twenty-five cents isn't much money and yet it will buy the Herald for three months, and three months of neighborhood news is valuable to a man who loves his neighbors.

The surveys of the new line of railway, to which Prince Edward has voted a subscription, have reached Danville. Now for embankments, cuts, rails, depots and running cars.

Col. W. P. Venable was appointed by Gov. Montague one of the delegates to the Good Roads Convention from the 4th Congressional District, which Convention will meet in St. Louis.

The Herald presses have been "busy to the brim" of late, but it is with presses as with persons, the busy man always has time to do something else. Bring in your work and you shall have prompt attention.

Rev. Mr. McAllister, who during the present session, has been teaching the classes of Rev. Dr. Moore, at Union Theological Seminary, preached two most interesting and acceptable sermons at the Presbyterian church on last Sunday.

Mrs. J. S. McIlwaine entertained handsomely and most delightfully at her home on Randolph street, Wednesday afternoon between the hours of 5 and 7. Mrs. McIlwaine is charming hostess and has already won enviable reputation as such in Farmville's social world.

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Next to the circus the mayor's court attracts the biggest crowd ever gathered together in town.

We have recently seen some bundles of asparagus from the garden of Mr. H. W. Edmunds that would stand a good chance for first prize at a World's Fair counter.

Our country friends ought to be happy. Old hens from 40 to 50 cents, butter 30 cents, eggs 15 cents, old ham anywhere from 15 to 18 cents and hard to get at that. A little less tobacco and more things to eat and they will still be happier.

Merchants say they make no profit on the sales of baled hay and surely it isn't profitable to the farmers to buy it, then why not quit it? A little less tobacco and a little more of forage and the problem is solved.

A desirable building lot in the West End, belonging to the estate of Miss Mollie P. Jackson, was sold at public auction on last Tuesday and was bought by Mr. Wm. Lancaster at the price of \$400.

Some people always look on the bright side. A farmer commenting on the weather the other day said: "This is the finest weather for hauling leaves you ever saw. You can crowd about four loads into one wagon body." That man wasn't in the dumps on account of the rain, but taking advantage of it and getting ready for the sun shine.

Normal School Notes.

Misses Linda McClung and Margaret Withrow, of Rockbridge county, arrived Tuesday of last week. Miss Withrow will pursue a course of study helpful in public school work. Miss McClung hopes to complete the Senior B class in June.

Miss Estelle Smithley's sister, Mrs. Collier, who has been a missionary in the field of Korea for the past six years, gave a very interesting talk, on the women of Korea, in the Assembly Hall at seven o'clock Tuesday evening.

Miss Mary Woodruff has returned after being absent a week at Wilkes-barre, Pennsylvania, where she attended the ninth biennial convention of the Young Women's Christian Association.

Miss Louise Vaughan left for her home at Rice, last week. Her eyes were so affected by measles, that she could not continue her work satisfactorily.

Miss Annie McCraw visited her sister, Miss Bessie McCraw, Sunday and Monday. Miss McCraw has been teaching in Tennessee, but has returned home sooner than usual, on account of ill health.

Miss Ruth Clendenning, who has been sick so long at the home of Mr. B. M. Cox, left for her home in Hillsboro, Va., last Saturday.

At The Opera House.

"The Tailman," by Scott, will be given by the Dramatic Club of the Normal School, at the Opera House Friday evening, May 1st. Be sure to hear these charming young amateurs and encourage them in their ambition to give henceforth only high grade plays. The proceeds will be used for the benefit of the Annual.

A very brief synopsis will make the play more interesting. The scene is laid in the time of Richard Cour-de-Lion, during the crusades, and the beginning of the play finds the hosts of England encamped in the desert. Richard Cour-de-Lion entrusts the banner of England to Sir Kenneth, a valiant Scot, who must guard the banner all night. The wily Vegetarius, by means of a ring and a message from Lady Edith, whom Sir Kenneth loves, beguiles the young knight from his post. In his absence the banner is stolen. Sir Kenneth is condemned to death, and the Intercessions of Queen Berengaria, Lady Edith and the Hermit in his behalf, have no effect upon King Richard. Hakin, the Mohammedan physician, who, by means of a wonderful talisman has cured the king of a fever, begs of King Richard one boon—a life, in token of his gratitude.

At last King Richard yields, and Sir Kenneth leaves the camp with Hakin. He afterwards returns in disguise, and in saving the King from a Moorish assassin, his identity is revealed, and he is restored to the King's favor. Sir Kenneth turns out to be David, Earl of Huntingdon, heir to the throne of Scotland, and after winning the victory in combat with Conrad to determine who stole the banner of England, his rank is proclaimed by King Richard, who bestows upon Sir Kenneth in betrothal the hand of Lady Edith Plantagenet, cousin of the King.

A Word of Advice.

Editor Herald:—I fear that passion and not reason is just now controlling the liquor question in Farmville, and as long as this is so nothing but confusion will follow. Let's put on our thinking caps and bring to bear our best judgment. Criminalization and re-education in the Council chamber are unequally and out of order. The "city fathers" ought not to meet with the purpose of getting personal advantage the one of the other in sharp debate, and street corner discussions of the subject should be declared off.

Lets conduct our public affairs as we do our private, "decently and in order."

Civic.

The Alarm Bell.

Editor Herald:—Wasn't that a dangerous and unusual privilege which the town council granted our military company at its last meeting? That of sounding the fire alarm when there was no fire? True the boys ought to be drilled and made perfect in it, but will not the beating of the "long roll" be better than the ringing of bells to call them into action?

If we as a people get accustomed to the fire alarm when there is no reason for it we may get in the habit of sleeping soundly when it rings for cause.

Our soldier boys are entitled to the best we have but that doesn't include the making of the fire bell a play thing.

TOWNSMAN.

The Old Drayman.

Editor Herald:—I remember when old man Kitt held the reins over the only pair of dry horses in town, and now their name is legion. And some of the horses are splendid specimens, but no driver looks more at home on a dray than did Kitt the pioneer.

L.

Athletics Defended.

Farmville, Va., April 20, '03.
Editor Herald:—While not a minister, will you allow me a few words in regard to a letter in your last issue signed "A Member of the Y. M. C. A." in which some questions were asked about the recent athletic contest at the Armory? A man living in this intelligent age whose mind is so covered with the barnacles of prejudice that he is unable to make a few distinctions which are so obvious to the majority of people deserves our sympathy. Such people seeing as through a darkened glass only a distasteful object reason from false premises to a false conclusion. Or even granting the premises correct, deduce the wrong conclusion, and when they argue from the proposition "that all horses are quadrupeds" that this cow must be a horse because she is a quadruped, they find themselves in a difficulty. To assume that all dancing is wrong, or all horse racing is sinful is to assume what is not true. The former is a graceful and pleasant diversion, unless carried to excess, the latter, an exciting sport and only wrong when money is wagered. The athletic exercises in question were conducted in a friendly spirit and the result in every race accepted without dispute, as far as the writer knows, which is evidence conclusive of their fairness.

The recreation from the cares of business and the benefit physically to the young men engaged in it, to say nothing of the pleasure afforded a large and appreciative audience, entitled them to more charitable criticism. Neither is it kind or true to say that a man is indecently clothed because knee pants and a shirt waist—the regulation gymnasium suit—are not as becoming to him as a full dress suit might be. Perhaps this paragon of modesty will retire to some cave in the wilderness when the small boys go barefooted this summer.

Some of the best all-around athletes are good Christian people and many of them ministers of the gospel, and their association with others on the athletic fields and in the gymnasiums of the country has resulted in incalculable benefit to themselves and the eternal good of their fellow men. I challenge any one to find an instance in the Bible where the Christian life is compared to anything that is base or degraded, while I respectfully submit that some of St. Paul's strongest similes are those in which he compares that life to a man running a race, stripped of every weight that would hinder or retard.

A SPECTATOR.

A Deplorable Condition.

There was once a town, situated on the banks of some river, on whose streets opened five hell-holes called open bar rooms. For a number of years these places of corruption have been sapping the morals of a great many of our young men, and depriving women and children very often of bread to eat, and clothes to wear. The Christian people of this town, seeing in this a deplorable condition it had fallen, determined to try and in some way improve its condition. So they, with the assistance of their noble and worthy senator, succeeded in getting a bill passed in favor of a dispensary. This closed the barrooms, I hope never to be reopened. But I understand there will be an effort made to leave it to a vote of the people, whether or not liquor shall be sold.

Let all the men who claim to be followers of Christ, if I take it for granted of course no Christian is in favor of the barroom) go to work and use his influence in favor of temperance, and there will be no trouble in abolishing the bar room system. Some say "If we do not sell liquor we will lose trade." If a town, to keep up its trade, has to sell an article that will corrupt the youth of our land, that will cause so many unhappy families, and damn so many souls, it had better be sunk so deep as never to be again resurrected.

I know of a village, in which, at one time there were two bars and only three stores. After a hard fight, the bar rooms were closed, and today there are five stores, three of these are engaged in a commission business, and I will venture to say this village is doing today, for its size more than the town on the banks of the river where five barrooms have been kept.

Good Roads Meeting.

MILLBANK, VA., April 21, 1902.
Editor Herald:—I am glad to see the good roads movement being discussed in the county and hope it may now take a definite form. The people are deeply interested in this matter. Let us have a meeting of the citizens of the county and unite on some definite plan. I have a petition similar to the one published in your last paper with signatures of some of our best citizens and property holders on it. I have met only one man opposed to this plan.

Yours truly,
JOHN R. MORTON.

Erroneous Impression Corrected.

FARMVILLE, VA., April 17, 1903.
The Virginia State Fertilizer Co., Lynchburg, Va.

Dear Sirs:—I would like for you to inform me if there is a guano manufactured by either The Virginia State Fertilizer Co., or the Lynchburg Guano Co., bearing the same analysis as Dunington's Special Formula, viz: 3-8-3, and being sold in Farmville or Prince Edward county. Or if there is manufactured by either of the said Companies a guano bearing the same analysis as Dunington's Special Formula, viz: 3-8-3, and being sold in Farmville or Prince Edward county?

Yours very truly,
Per Walter H. Robertson.

Of all High Grade Paints.

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Hush River Brieflets.

FARMVILLE, April 21, 1903.

The farmers of this neighborhood are very backward in their work. Some commenced to plant corn this week, but the rain on Monday prevented.